

## **Week of May 27, 2002: MaineDOT Flash Facts**

### **Topic: Memorial Day Safety (include graduations)**

**(May 27 is the end of “Buckle Up America” campaign)**

#### ***Memorial Day, Monday, May 27***

##### **Openers**

-Many people will be traveling back home today  
To keep you safe on the road, here are some reminders:

##### **Safety Tips**

- Pay attention to the road.
- Maintain safe speeds.
- Expect holiday traffic back-ups. (Allow extra time).
- Make sure you leave adequate space between you and the car ahead (to avoid rear end collisions).
- Don't eat and drive. (Eating, trying to reach for it or tending to spills can create a significant interruption in your driving attention.)
- Make sure everyone in your car wears seat belts.

#### ***Graduations, Wednesday May 29 & 31:***

##### **Opener**

This is the time of year for graduations. And with graduations come celebrations.

##### **Safety Tips**

##### **Wednesday - Tips for Teenagers**

Car crashes cause the most teenage deaths.

- Drinking and driving don't mix.
- Make sure the driver is sober. (Do not take chances behind the wheel and do not endanger yourself or others.).
- Make sure you are rested before taking the wheel.
- The leading contributing factors in teenage crashes:
  - Driver inattention/distraction (Driving demands full attention.)
  - Speeding (Safe speeds need to be maintained).
- Make sure everyone buckles up.

##### **Friday - Tips for Parents**

- Know your children's plans.
- Set guidelines on safe driving.
- Support chemical free graduation parties.
- Offer alternate transportation arrangements.
- Make sure children check in with you on any schedule changes.

*Prepared by:*  
*Safety Management*  
*Systems Management Division*  
*Bureau of Planning*  
*Maine Department of Transportation*